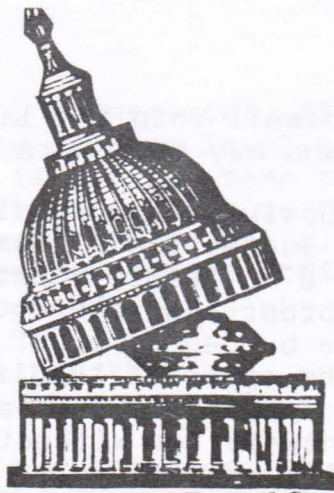


JUST

CAUSE



Publisher:
Lawrence Fawcett

Editor:
Barry Greenwood

Address: P.O.Box 218

Coventry, Conn. 06238

Subscription:

4 issues-\$10 (\$15 foreign)

NUMBER 13

NEW SERIES

September 1987

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EDITORIAL NOTE

Due to the length of this issue, CAUS Bulletin will not appear this quarter. As you can see, Just Cause, Sept. 1987, is the largest issue in our brief history. We feel it is necessary to voice another side in the MJ-12 matter in as much detail as we can. Consequently, our finances will be virtually obliterated. Controversies like this tend to rage on endlessly and we have spent considerable space on MJ-12 over the last two years. Let us hope this will come to a swift conclusion soon.

THE MJ-12 FIASCO

We can now report to you that, regretablely, the MJ-12 affair appears to be a grand deception and, consequently, a giant black eye on the face of UFOlogy. This conclusion did not come lightly and was the result of extensive inquiries by CAUS. We did have high hopes that perhaps our initial doubts, as reported in our last issue, would have been allayed by additional releases and that a proper explanation would be found for the problems. It was not to be. The deeper we looked, the worse it became.

In dealing with government documents it is vitally important that we know where information comes from. Otherwise, how can one possibly vouch for it's authenticity. It is why CAUS regards cover letters from agency releases almost as important as the releases themselves.

In the case of MJ-12, Moore, Shandera and Friedman (herein referred to as MSF) have not provided this most basic element. The material, save for the 1954 Cutler memo, was sent to Jaime Shandera anonymously, on undeveloped 35mm film which was later made into hardcopy. Who is the source? MSF doesn't say. Where did it come from? They don't say that either. This by itself should raise suspicions, but there is much more.

Why did Shandera receive the film? He is not exactly a well-known person in UFOlogy. We have a situation where a "government source" finds it important to release very sensitive, still-classified documents on crashed discs, Roswell, and alien bodies, certainly the story of the century! To whom does he go? Walter Cronkite? Dan Rather? Carl Sagan? No, he goes to MSF who are clearly in the pro-Roswell camp already and need no convincing. And they do have much to gain from these "documents" being made public. It sounds pretty self-serving that someone should

anonymously drop proof of Roswell into the laps of only its chief supporters and no one else who may have more influence in uncovering the "truth."

Why, at the MUFON Symposium in June, did Moore declare that the burden of proof is on those suggesting a hoax (in front of a press conference) while saying in a Ft. Walton Beach, Florida newspaper that he has found no undeniable proof that the document is genuine? In a true scientific investigation the burden of proof is always on the proponent to prove his case, not on the opponent to disprove.

Why did MSF alter the appearance of the MJ-12 documents in their first release of the Focus newsletter without explanation? Whole sections were deleted, giving the appearance of government censorship, but actually was performed by MSF as they later admitted. It smacked of a sensationalist technique to arouse interest.

These are only minor quibbles over technique. The major problems follow.

The Documents

The core of MSF's case lies in the documents which have been "released." These are what must survive scrutiny if we are to accept MJ-12 as genuine. Since we have described them in our previous issue, we will report on our study of the papers without extensive re-quoting.

--The "Project Aquarius" report - A three-page extract of a larger document with title page and two pages of text. Source and date are unknown and no other information is traceable. We direct your attention to the title page (Exhibit 1).

You see in large print "EXECUTIVE CORRESPONDENCE" and below in typescript is "Executive Briefing." Looks impressive doesn't it? It implies an important presidential paper with the bold phrase "EXECUTIVE CORRESPONDENCE." However, there is a problem as you will see next.

Exhibit 2 is a reproduction of a sample sheet of stationery with a clear, plastic cover that had accidentally been sent with an FOIA release to Robert Todd in 1979. The cover says "EXECUTIVE CORRESPONDENCE" at the top and on the bottom it says "DO NOT WRITE ON THIS COVER AS IT IS INTENDED FOR RE-USE. RETURN IT WITH THE FILE COPIES TO ORIGINATING OFFICE." It is a plastic file cover used internally by various agencies in transmitting and filing paperwork. The bottom portion of the cover takes away much of the presidential flavor of the top phrase.

Now note Exhibit 1 again. While the plastic cover in Exhibit 2 shows the top and bottom printing at the very top and bottom, the Aquarius paper shows "EXECUTIVE CORRESPONDENCE" dropped down about an inch or so, resulting in the bottom phrase vanishing. We believe that this was a deliberate deception to give the paper an appearance of being presidential by moving the top wording downward to cause the more mundane bottom phrasing to disappear off the photocopy.

The emblem on the cover of the Aquarius paper has more the appearance of being drawn on rather than printed on the page. A felt-tipped pen could have done just as well.

Of the various projects mentioned on page 2 of the Aquarius text, one, "Pounce", has appeared in UFO history. It was said to be a proposal for investigating UFOs by Kirtland AFB, New Mexico, according to the CIA's 1953 Robertson Panel. No explanation of "Pounce" appears in the Aquarius paper.

Additionally, "Project Sigma" in the Aquarius paper (said to be an Air Force effort to communicate with aliens) has been located in the massive, two-volume CODE NAME DIRECTORY by the Defense Market-

ing Services of Greenwich, Connecticut, 1986 edition. It is listed as a "Top Secret Air Force program involving Rockwell International."

If the DMS "Sigma" is not the same as the Aquarius "Sigma," then Aquarius Sigma is probably wrong because duplication of code names in a close time frame is not within normal military procedure. Obviously, two programs with the same code name within the same branch of service (Air Force) would be confused. That's why selection lists of code names exist.

If the two projects are the same, where is the massive security for Aquarius "Sigma" that it appears in a commercially available directory?

Project Snowbird, in a previous issue of Just Cause, was described as a "Joint Army/Air Force peacetime military exercise in the sub-arctic region, 1955," according to Gale Research's CODE NAMES DICTIONARY, 1963. No connection to UFOs is apparent here and certainly not in the context of the Aquarius paper's description. Snowbird was a training exercise for Army and Air Force units under arctic conditions.

Finally, our last issue dealt with the short-lived confirmation of an Air Force "Project Aquarius" by the NSA. The revelation fizzled however when the NSA retracted it's confirmation based upon a false assumption.

No other independent confirmation of the Project Aquarius document has been possible.

-- The CIA "MJ-5" memo - A one-page document (Exhibit 3) on CIA letterhead, but not released through FOIA. Source and year of memo are unknown. Deletions by MSF. This document first appeared in Moore's newsletter Focus. It has not appeared in any subsequent discussion of MJ-12.

The MJ-5 memo is a real problem. Type style, placement of security markings, use of CIA letter stationery instead of internal forms and language are all atypical of CIA standards. The executive order number quoted in the memo is non-existent. The deletion by MSF of the year forbids accurate follow-up and implies an attempt to cover a deception. We were informed by MSF in a June phone conversation about various points in favor of MJ-12. When discussion focused upon the MJ-5 memo, we stated our concern over the flaws in this paper. A response from the CIA regarding the authenticity of the memo was entirely negative, the CIA labeling the memo a "poorly made fabrication." When informed of this, MSF's only response was, "You believe them?" Indeed we do if the statement agrees with what we can see with our own eyes!

It is notable that MSF have let the memo quietly disappear from later presentations of evidence on MJ-12, even though, according to MSF's phone conversation, it came from the same source as the other documents. Why is this memo no longer being discussed? Suspicious as well is the similarity of the type style in the MJ-5 memo, written on CIA letterhead, and the Aquarius paper, written by the MJ-12 group. If the MJ-5 memo is no longer valid to present as evidence of MJ-12, and it came from the same source as the other documents, then what does this say about the Aquarius paper, or indeed the rest of the evidence?

--The MJ-12 Briefing Paper - An eight-page document with a title page, introductory page, three pages of text, a list of attachments, title page for Attachment "A", and Attachment "A," a copy of a signed letter by President Harry Truman. Source is unknown.

Numerous inquiries have revealed that there has been no confirmation of this document in any library or archive. The one source

most certain to have information on the Briefing Paper is the Eisenhower Library in Abilene, Kansas. Their response is Exhibit 4.

Page 2 of the Briefing Paper refers to the formation of MJ-12 "by special classified executive order of President Truman on 24 September, 1947..." We have checked the Truman Library's listing of executive orders and found that no orders were issued on 9/24. Executive order numbers 9891 - 9896 were issued respectively on 9/15, two on 9/20, 9/23, 9/30 and 10/2/47, none even closely resembling the MJ-12 subject. There is no gap in the number sequence for these dates so none are missing. Further, the number quoted in Attachment "A" of the Briefing Paper, #092447 (Exhibit 5A), is not an executive order number but the date of President Truman's memo, 9/24/47! Executive orders are not numbered by date but are numbered sequentially, and at the time the numbers were only four digits.

Truman's "EO" (Exhibit 5B) was sent to the Truman Library for authentication. Their answer is Exhibit 6. None of the other attachments are available for examination.

We also find peculiar the atypical use of "0" prefixes in front of numbers (07 July, 06 December, 092447).

In the text itself, two things require comment. Page 3 of the Briefing Paper states, "The wreckage of the craft was also removed to several different locations." We question the wisdom of this practice, if indeed it happened at all. One of the first procedures in aircraft accident investigations is to reconstruct the vehicle from whatever is left of the wreckage. We saw this in the Challenger disaster; gather all the pieces in one place and reassemble them to either determine the cause of the accident, or in this case, see what the vehicle looked like. Apparently such was not done here. Keeping pieces in different locations forbids reconstruction and risks the loss of pieces in transit between various places. Immediate reconstruction is primary, especially with an exotic, unknown vehicle.

We draw your attention to Exhibit 7, a report on a 1950 UFO crash extracted from the Briefing Paper, page 5. According to a report by Jerome Clark in the February 1980, Saga UFO Report, a UFO crash took place 15-20 miles into Mexico from the Laredo, Texas area. It is most likely the same story referred to in the Briefing Paper as we find no other different 1950 crashed UFO reports in that area. The story is based on the testimony of Lt. Col. Robert Willingham, an eyewitness.

Another reference, in Leonard Stringfield's THE UFO CRASH/RETRIEVAL SYNDROME, STATUS REPORT 2 (Case B-7) discusses the same story and gives the location of the crash as 30 miles NW of Del Rio, Texas, as corrected by further research.

However, the Briefing Paper pinpoints the "El Indio-Guerrero" area, some 90 miles SE of the Del Rio position and 70 miles NW of the Laredo site. There is a significant disagreement between eyewitness statements and the Briefing Paper regarding location.

Additionally, if the object were a spaceship (the Briefing Paper only says "probably of similar origin" to the Roswell crash), isn't it getting short shrift in the Briefing Paper? After all, MJ-12 was supposed to be an elite panel formed to study such incidents. This case is said to be only the second crashed UFO in history and yet it gets only slightly over 7 lines in the Briefing Paper! Visibly, there is no evidence that MJ-12 had much information on the 1950 "crash," despite the fact that it had almost two years to gather details. Is what is described in the Briefing Paper on the 1950 incident terribly different from a meteorite impact? Read it again!

MSF have stated that they have found nothing wrong in the Briefing Paper; that they find agreement with what they have discovered and

reported in their various papers and THE ROSWELL INCIDENT. We agree! But that is the problem - there is little that conflicts with what was already on the record for a number of years. Enough is in print on the Roswell incident to concoct a pretty good - but false - scenario. This must be considered as an equally plausible explanation for the documents at present unless some compelling new information comes along.

MSF have cited a December 8, 1950, FBI cable as evidence in favor of the 1950 Texas crash. The cable states that the FBI field office in Richmond, Virginia was advised that Army Intelligence was placed on "Immediate High Alert" for any information on "flying saucers." Anything at all on the topic was to be phoned to Air Force Intelligence. While intriguing, caution is advised in linking this firmly to the Texas incident. First - The cable is not classified, though it states that the alert was "strictly confidential." Second - The cable says nothing about Texas, crashed discs, MJ-12, or related matters. Third - It is not clear why the Richmond FBI field office or Richmond Army Intelligence would be put on alert relative to the Texas incident for "any information whatsoever" on flying saucers. Fourth - If this were a top security matter, why involve the FBI, a non-military agency?

--The 1954 Cutler memo - A one-page memo on carbon copy paper from Robert Cutler, Special Assistant to President Eisenhower, to General Nathan Twining. Source is the Air Force Intelligence file group at the National Archives in Washington, D.C. The Cutler memo is the key document to MSF's case because it is the sole piece of MJ-12 evidence that could be traced to an official source. If this is genuine, then there was an MJ-12.

As mentioned in our last Just Cause, problems arose early. In telephone conversations with Edward Reese of the Military Reference Branch of the National Archives, CAUS learned that while the memo was found in an Air Force Intelligence file box, several things were peculiar.

- 1) The security marking appeared in an unusual position, under the date instead of on the top and bottom of the page.
- 2) It was a carbon copy; unsigned and not the original.
- 3) It lacked the usual stamping, initials; etc. found on old documents.
- 4) It originally lacked a Top Secret register number, by which the document could be filed in a proper folder. Implication was that it was not part of the original file group released by the Air Force.

More on #4. Reese said he received several requests for the Cutler memo, probably as a result of an article by Bruce Maccabee in the November/December 1986 issue of the International UFO Reporter. The article by Maccabee was the earliest mention of the existence of the Cutler memo, presumably given to him by Moore.

Reese was unable to locate the document until one of the requests (Reese couldn't remember who) included the Top Secret register number of the file which contained the memo. Apparently sometime before, someone had gone through the box with the Cutler memo, recorded the register number of the file, then later submitted the request using the register number (T4-1846). Reese, finding the memo in the file, was puzzled that it lacked the number so assigned the file number to the document himself to allow it's re-location.

Moore and Shandera said they were the first individuals to inspect the boxes in 1985. In fact, the release authority at the Archives, identified by the written notation on later copies (NND 857013),

indicates the year of declassification (1985) and the case number (7013) for the entire file group, not just file T4-1846. Yet, Moore's copy of the memo indicates that it was released on 1/12/87.

Questions arise! If the memo was found by Moore and Shandera in 1985, why do they present a copy released two years later? Did they not get a copy when it was found on site? How did the unknown phone caller know the register number unless he went through the file and why didn't he make a copy while there? Where is a copy of the memo with a dated release of 1985? The implication of this is that someone planted the memo before 1987 and set it up to be "officially" discovered and "officially" released by Archives personnel. Why no mention of it by MSF before this year when, as evidenced by our article in the December 1985 Just Cause, the topic was already public news and needed to be verified at that point? Why didn't MSF confide in us at that point when we would have helped?

Reese also said that an Archives visitor, not Moore or Friedman, insisted that the memo be stamped with the official National Archives stamp on the front, contrary to Archives policy of stamping the backs of documents. This was certainly to guarantee the appearance of "officiality" when the memo is reproduced. Moore's first release of the memo is the front-stamped copy (Exhibit 8).

In the file T4-1846 along with the Cutler memo is a withdrawal card for an "Air Intelligence Estimate 1/54." The original document was classified and dealt with Soviet aircraft. Question: Why would the Cutler memo be filed in the same folder with a document on a completely unrelated topic?

Upon visiting the National Archives on June 25th, this editor had a chance to examine the Cutler memo original. It was in Box 189, Records Group 341, Entry 267. The box was virtually empty except for a few folders containing a small number of non-UFO documents and folders with withdrawal cards. The box had been carefully scanned before declassification and most of the files were removed and replaced with the cards. Question: How did the "Top Secret Restricted" Cutler memo escape the obviously careful sanitizing of the box, though MJ-12 was supposed to be of extreme sensitivity?

The memo itself was on delicate carbon copy, rice-type paper with the typing in blue carbon impression and a red slash through the security marking. The memo was remarkably clean looking with little sign of 33 years of wear and handling, except for a very slight age browning around the four edges. A watermark, "DICTATION UNION SKIN," could be read and in smaller, less distinct letters a word looking like "FOX," perhaps the manufacturer. Other marking was evident but entirely unreadable.

Reese was in a quandry because, despite his suspicions about the memo, he had to treat it as genuine. He expressed to this editor his opinion that it wasn't genuine but, in lieu of a forger coming forward, it would be extremely difficult to prove. I suggested that the document be given an in-house analysis. The controversy was sure to increase and an analysis might answer some questions. Reese thought it was a good idea so with that I thanked him and left.

While you are digesting this assault on your brain cells, Exhibit 9, coming from the Assistant Director of the Eisenhower Library, give that institute's conclusions on the Cutler memo and MJ-12.

Finally, a "coup de grace" for the Cutler memo came from the Archives. Exhibit 10 is a disclaimer now being sent to requesters of the memo. It gives a 10-point list of reasons why they feel the Cutler memo "poses problems." The disclaimer is signed by the same individual who was quoted in MSF's press release of June 11th as initially believ-

ing that the memo was genuine, based on the simple fact that it was found at the Archives.

DISCUSSION

Pro-MJ-12 people have claimed that security is such at the National Archives that a hoax could not be perpetrated. This editor visited the Archives on June 25th with two file folders full of xeroxed government documents, this to aid in my research into other matters. I signed in at the desk, obtained a researcher's card and walked on in without anyone so much as peeking at my folders. I spent 45 minutes with Mr. Reese while there, chatting about MJ-12 and UFOs. During that time I had ample opportunity to plant or steal documents while Reese was fielding phone calls.

After our discussion I left with a manila envelope that Reese kindly provided for my folders full of documents. I went down to the desk at ground level, signed out and left. Again not so much as a look at my envelope. So much for massive security! It would have been easy, had I been so inclined, to plant a single page hidden on my person into a folder. The last I heard the National Archives was not doing a strip search of every patron!

Reese had admitted that there was no way to prevent some "seeding" or thefts, that they just didn't have that kind of security. A recent news story revealed the theft of historic documents from the Archives by an art historian, something Reese told me about well before it ever became news.

MSF's press release of June 11th makes several interesting comments. Acknowledging that they are not in a position to endorse the authenticity of the documents, MSF say, nevertheless, that they appear to be genuine and that "nothing has surfaced during the course of our research which would seem to suggest otherwise." They also state that a "detailed and exhaustive study" has been underway since December 1984.

In that two-year study how is it that MSF managed to avoid the negative comments of various agencies and libraries relative to the authenticity of MJ-12? The Truman and Eisenhower libraries would be among the first sources to contact since the key documents came from those administrations. Either MSF contacted those sources, received positive replies, and for some strange reason are withholding results that would help prove their case, or MSF received negative replies and, as such, are misinforming the public in their press release that nothing was found casting doubt on the affair. Or MSF did not contact them at all, laying waste to their claim of a detailed and exhaustive study over two years.

Actually a "Majestic" project was found at the Archives but was nothing more than an emergency war plan drafted in 1952. No connection to MJ-12 is at all evident.

MSF's sole support from an expert at the National Archives was a quote in the London Observer by archivist Jo Ann Williamson on May 31, 1987 (MSF Press Release, June 11, 1987, pg.3), when the story was forced into the spotlight by Timothy Good's new book ABOVE TOP SECRET. This support did not develop during the two-year study but only after it hit the press. And, as slim as it was, it was demolished by Williamson herself in the July 22, 1987, National Archives MJ-12 disclaimer.

It would now be a good idea for MSF to publish all the evidence of the exhaustive, two-year study, which they claim totally supports MJ-12, very soon as the story is under considerable assault.

It is also time to see the additional portion of MSF's information; the things that they have publicly stated as having in hand relative to MJ-12. This information is, by their words, far more sensational than what has already been released. MSF wants a scientific investigation into MJ-12, but have yet to open the book fully on what broadcaster Paul Harvey calls the "rest of the story." Where are those photographs and video tape? Why haven't recent press releases by MSF discussed the "MJ-5" memo and the Aquarius report? Where is the President Carter briefing paper? Let us hear a little more about "EBEs" and the "Highs?" We know MSF have this information and it certainly would be a revelation if what we hear about these things turns out to be true. Why are MSF playing "Project Blue Book" and not releasing the meat?

A DISTURBING REVELATION

Now that we know the MJ-12 story is severely flawed, what is the source of this information? Since MSF aren't talking about their sources, we've discovered several things which we think point in the right direction.

- 1) In 1984, Linda Moulton Howe, who produced the well-known cattle mutilation film STRANGE HARVEST, was contacted by a government source to aid in producing a UFO documentary, essentially providing an answer to UFOs. She was invited by the source, briefed on the story, then sworn to secrecy about it until the film's eventual release. The deal was never completed. Details of the story given to her match the MJ-12 tale, along with much extra detail about contacts with "EBEs" (see MJ-12 Briefing Paper), Nordic-type aliens called "Highs" and conflicting alien factions.
- 2) In March 1986, UFO lecturer and researcher Robert Hastings visited with Dr. Paul Bennewitz of the Kirtland 1980 sightings (see CLEAR INTENT, Epilog) at his home in Albuquerque, New Mexico, very close to Kirtland AFB. During the interview Hastings reported that Bennewitz used the phrase "Extraterrestrial Biological Entities" to describe the aliens in his UFO activities. The phrase is identical to the MJ-12 Briefing Paper's description of aliens and came a full year before the public release of the MSF papers. How did Bennewitz know this phrase without having been told by someone?
- 3) CAUS Director, Peter Gersten, in a visit with a military intelligence source at Kirtland AFB in 1983, was informed of a wide range of bizarre UFO stories. Included were comments on a briefing paper on UFOs for President Carter, the Cash/Landrum UFO being a government exploitation of UFO technology (something Bennewitz has claimed as well), Bill Moore being "right on" with Roswell, and an admission that the original Project Aquarius cable (see CAUS Bulletin, December 1985) on Bennewitz and his UFO photos was "retyped" and not an original cable. This cable was the first mention anywhere of MJ-12 and Project Aquarius.

What links these three incidents together?

- Linda Howe's source was Air Force OSI Special Agent Richard Doty.
- Peter Gersten's interview was with OSI Special Agent Richard Doty.

~~TOP SECRET~~
~~TOP SECRET~~

EXECUTIVE CORRESPONDENCE

EXECUTIVE BRIEFING

SUBJECT:

PROJECT AQUARIUS (T-3)

Knobbed bracket
and shapes of
letters match well
with Exhibit 3.

Irregular line
thickness and
edges have a drawn
appearance.



ATTENTION

THIS DOCUMENT WAS PREPARED BY MJ12. MJ12 IS SOLELY RESPONSIBLE FOR ITS SUBSTANCE.

EXHIBIT 1

EXECUTIVE CORRESPONDENCE



HEADQUARTERS

NORTH AMERICAN AEROSPACE DEFENSE COMMAND

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, COLORADO 80914

Executive Briefing (Framo)

Don't allow AF to evaluate IDENT info. They may open up a
little too much. KID-7 can assist to some extent.

EXHIBIT 2

**DO NOT WRITE ON THIS COVER AS IT IS INTENDED FOR RE-USE
RETURN IT WITH THE FILE COPIES TO ORIGINATING OFFICE**

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

June 24, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]/MJ12

Executive Briefing {Memo}

Yesterday R2 requested briefing on Project "A". In particular, he wanted updated info from [REDACTED]. MJ3 advised that that info was not available to R2. Apparently, White House requested info because of [REDACTED]. Can't seem to make those fools realize [REDACTED] info is not available for any dissemination, per EO 11652, regardless of who requests info. Contact T-2P and see if he can assume custody of the matter.

Don't allow AF to evaluate IDENT info. They may open up a little too much. KEND-? can assist to some extent.

MJ5.

~~TOP SECRET~~
~~TOP SECRET~~

EXHIBIT 3

HANDLE ON STRICT
NEED-TO-KNOW BASIS



Dwight D. Eisenhower Library

Abilene, Kansas 67410

August 7, 1987

Mr. Barry Greenwood
CAUS/MASS. MUFON
P.O. Box 176
Stoneham, MA 02180

Dear Mr. Greenwood:

This is in response to your letter of July 26. The staff of the Eisenhower Library has been unable to locate any record in our holdings of the briefing document dated November 18, 1952 or of the Majestic or MJ-12 operation. We have not located any documents with the MAJIC code word on them nor have we seen any evidence that a "Majestic-12 clearance level" ever existed during the Eisenhower Administration. Since the document was drawn up by the Truman Administration, rather than the Eisenhower, we really do not have the resources at hand to fully research and analyze this paper.

If you are interested in personally checking the national security materials in our manuscript collections for information on this alleged project, please let us know, and we will be happy to provide you with a research application and additional information on our facility.

Sincerely,

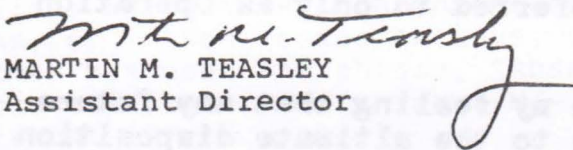

MARTIN M. TEASLEY
Assistant Director

EXHIBIT 4

EXHIBIT 5A

COPY ONE OF ONE.

ENUMERATION OF ATTACHMENTS:

*ATTACHMENT "A".....Special Classified Executive
Order #092447. (TS/EO)

Operation Majestic-12 Status

EXHIBIT 5B

~~TOP SECRET~~
~~EX-101~~
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

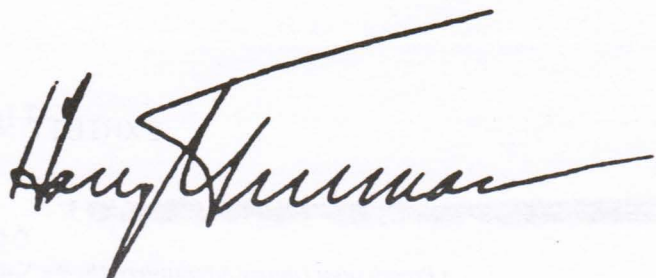
September 24, 1947.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

Dear Secretary Forrestal:

As per our recent conversation on this matter, you are hereby authorized to proceed with all due speed and caution upon your undertaking. Hereafter this matter shall be referred to only as Operation Majestic Twelve.

It continues to be my feeling that any future considerations relative to the ultimate disposition of this matter should rest solely with the Office of the President following appropriate discussions with yourself, Dr. Bush and the Director of Central Intelligence.



It is also time to see the additional portion of MSF's information; the things that they have publicly stated as having in hand relative to MJ-12. This information is, by their words, far more sensational than what has already been released. MSF wants a scientific investigation into MJ-12, but have yet to open the book fully on what broadcaster Paul Harvey calls the "rest of the story." Where are those photographs and video tape? Why haven't recent press releases by MSF discussed the "MJ-5" memo and the Aquarius report? Where is the President Carter briefing paper? Let us hear a little more about "EBEs" and the "Highs?" We know MSF have this information and it certainly would be a revelation if what we hear about these things turns out to be true. Why are MSF playing "Project Blue Book" and not releasing the meat?

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EXHIBIT 8

July 14, 1954

~~TOP SECRET RESTRICTED~~
~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL TWINING

SUBJECT: NSC/MJ-12 Special Studies Project

The President has decided that the MJ-12 SSP briefing should take place during the already scheduled White House meeting of July 16, rather than following it as previously intended. More precise arrangements will be explained to you upon arrival. Please alter your plans accordingly.

Your concurrence in the above change of arrangements is assumed.

ROBERT CUTLER
Special Assistant
to the President

DECLASSIFIED
Authority WND 857013
on 9/17/87 Date 1/12/87

COPY

from

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Record Group No. Bq 341, Records of the Headquarters United States Air Force



EXHIBIT 9

July 13, 1987

Mr. Robert G. Todd
2528 Belmont Avenue
Ardmore, PA 19003

Dear Mr. Todd:

This is in response to your letter of June 30. Our reasons for questioning the authenticity of the July 14, 1954 memorandum from Robert Cutler to General Twining are as follows:

1. President Eisenhower's Appointment Books contain no entry for a special meeting on July 16, 1954 which might have included a briefing on MJ-12. Even when the President had "Off the Record" meetings, the Appointment Books contain entries indicating the times of the meetings and the participants.
2. The classification marking on this memorandum is one we have never seen on an Eisenhower Administration document. "Top Secret" and "Restricted" are two different levels of classification. There neither is, nor ever was, a classification level known as "Top Secret Restricted." The use of "Restricted" as a classification marking was discontinued in November 1953.
3. The Declassification Office of the National Security Council has informed us that it has no record of any declassification action having been taken on this memorandum or on any other documents on this alleged project.
4. No additional documentation on MJ-12 has been located at either the National Archives or the Eisenhower Library.
5. Finally, Robert Cutler, at the direction of President Eisenhower, was visiting overseas military installations on the day he supposedly

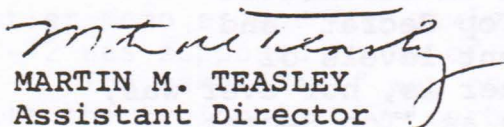
Mr. Robert G. Todd
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issued this memorandum--July 14, 1954. The Administration Series in Eisenhower's Papers as President contains Cutler's memorandum and report to the President upon his return from the trip. The memorandum is dated July 20, 1954 and refers to Cutler's visits to installations in Europe and North Africa between July 3 and July 15. Furthermore, Cutler's name does not appear on the roster for the regular NSC meeting of July 15. Also, within the NSC Staff Papers is a memorandum dated July 3, 1954 from Cutler to his two subordinates, James S. Lay and J. Patrick Coyne, explaining how they should handle NSC administrative matters during his absence; one would assume that if the memorandum to Twining were genuine, Lay or Coyne would have signed it.

We are enclosing, free of charge, copies of the July 14, 1954 purported memorandum from Cutler to Twining, the July 3, 1954 memorandum from Cutler to Lay and Coyne, and the July 20, 1954 memorandum from Cutler to the President.

If we can be of further assistance, please let us know.

Sincerely,


MARTIN M. TEASLEY
Assistant Director

Enclosures



EXHIBIT 10

Date : July 22, 1987
Reply to :
Attn of : Military Reference Branch
Subject : Reference Report on MJ-12
To : The Record

The National Archives has received many requests for documentation and information about "Project MJ-12". Many of the inquiries concern a memorandum from Robert Cutler to General Nathan Twining, dated July 14, 1954. This particular document poses problems for the following reasons:

1. The document was located in Record Group 341, entry 267. The series is filed by a Top Secret register number. This document does not bear such a number.
2. The document is filed in the folder T4-1846. There are no other documents in the folder regarding "NSC/MJ-12".
3. The Military Reference Branch (Edward Reese) has conducted a search in the records of the Secretary of Defense, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Headquarters US Air Force, and in other related files. No further information has been found on this subject.
4. Inquiries to the US Air Force, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the National Security Council failed to produce further information.
5. The Acting Director of the Freedom of Information Office of the National Security Council informed us that "Top Secret Restricted Information" is a marking which did not come into use at the National Security Council until the Nixon Administration. The Eisenhower Presidential Library also confirms that this particular marking was not used during the Eisenhower Administration.
6. The document in question does not bear an official government letterhead or watermark. The NARA conservation

specialist (Mary Ritzenthaler) examined the paper and determined it was a ribbon copy prepared on "dictation onionskin". The Eisenhower Library has examined its collection of the Cutler papers. All documents created by Mr. Cutler while he served on the NSC staff have an eagle watermark in the onionskin carbon paper. Most documents sent out by the NSC were prepared on White House letterhead paper. For the brief period when Mr. Cutler left the NSC, his carbon copies were prepared on "prestige onionskin".

7. The Judicial, Fiscal, and Social Branch searched the Official Meeting Minute Files of the National Security Council and found no record of a NSC meeting on July 16, 1954. A search of all NSC Meeting Minutes for July 1954 found no mention of MJ-12 nor Majestic.

8. The Judicial, Fiscal, and Social Branch (Mary Ronan) searched the indices of the NSC records and found no listing for: MJ-12, Majestic, unidentified flying objects, UFO, flying saucers, or flying discs.

9. The Judicial, Fiscal, and Social Branch (Mary Ronan) found a memo in a folder titled "Special Meeting July 16, 1954" which indicated that NSC members would be called to a civil defense exercise on July 16, 1954.

10. The Eisenhower Library states, in a letter to NNMR, dated July 16, 1987:

"President Eisenhower's Appointment Books contain no entry for a special meeting on July 16, 1954 which might have included a briefing on MJ-12. Even when the President had 'off the record' meetings, the Appointment Books contain entries indicating the time of the meeting and the participants...

The Declassification Office of the National Security Council has informed us that it has no record of any declassification action having been taken on this memorandum or any other documents on this alleged project...

Robert Cutler, at the direction of President Eisenhower, was visiting overseas military installations on the day he supposedly

issued this memorandum --- July 14, 1954. The Administration Series in Eisenhower's Papers as President contains Cutler's memorandum and report to the President upon his return from the trip. The memorandum is dated July 20, 1954 and refers to Cutler's visits to installations in Europe and North Africa between July 3 and 15. Also, within the NSC Staff Papers is a memorandum dated July 3, 1954, from Cutler to his two subordinates, James S. Lay and J. Patrick Coyne, explaining how they should handle NSC administrative matters during his absence; one would assume that if the memorandum to Twining were genuine, Lay or Coyne would have signed it."

JO ANN WILLIAMSON
JO ANN WILLIAMSON
Chief, Military Reference Branch
Military Archives Division

SECTION 1 ★ NZ Herald, Monday, June 1, 1987 7.

'Bodies in Crashed UFO'

NZPA

London

The bodies of four aliens from an unidentified flying object which crashed in the United States 40 years ago were recovered and examined by a special Government team, according to secret documents obtained by a British researcher.

A report in the *Observer* newspaper in Britain said a committee code-named Majestic-12 was involved in the recovery operation and the subsequent cover-up.

The *Observer* said it had seen the documents which claim that the head of the Central Intelligence Agency, Admiral Roscoe Hillenkoetter, reported that "although these creatures are human-like in appearance, the biological and evolutionary processes responsible for their development have apparently been quite different from those

observed or postulated in homo sapiens."

The document purports to be a briefing paper for President Eisenhower on Operation Majestic-12, or MJ-12.

A leading British UFO researcher, Timothy Good, claims in his book, *Above Top Secret: The Worldwide UFO Cover-up* that Majestic-12 was a committee of senior United States officials which investigated and then covered up flying saucer crashes.

Some UFO experts believe the story could be a hoax involving the planting in the files of Air Force Intelligence of a separate White House memo which supports the briefing paper.

The *Observer* said inquiries had been unable to authenticate the document but evidence had been found to support the existence of the MJ-12 committee.

In the briefing paper detailing the discovery of the alien bodies, it was reported that on June 24, 1947, disc-shaped aircraft were sighted in the United States.

"Little was learned until a local rancher reported that one had crashed in New Mexico..."

It continues: "On July 7, 1947, a secret operation was begun to assure recovery of the wreckage for scientific study."

"During the course of this operation aerial reconnaissance discovered that four small human-like beings had apparently ejected from the craft before it exploded."

Extensive searches of the archives of Presidents Truman and Eisenhower and the National Archives have failed to turn up a copy of the briefing paper.

But a White House memorandum referring to a meeting of

MJ-12 was found in the files of the Air Force director of intelligence.

An American UFO writer said in the *Observer* that the memo and the briefing paper could be part of a sophisticated fraud.

"There are some things that look wrong with the White House memo," said the UFO writer, Barry Greenwood.

"For example it is unsigned. It is just as possible that it was manufactured by someone wanting to prove the existence of MJ-12 and then inserted into Air Force Intelligence records which had recently been opened to the public."

"The hoaxer could then have ordered a copy from the National Archives which would carry the official declassification stamp."

It seems no evidence of the alien bodies remains either.

NEW YORK POST, MONDAY, JUNE 1, 1987

U.S. BURIED UFO BODIES & DATA: BOOK

UFO records faked, investigator reports

WASHINGTON, - "Top Secret" documents purporting to show that the Pentagon recovered a crashed flying saucer and four alien bodies in 1947 are bogus, according to a report released yesterday. The report was prepared for the Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal by Phillip Klass, Washington editor of *Aviation Week* and a leading debunker of UFO reports. (Reuters)

Boston Globe 8/25/87

LONDON (Reuters) — The U.S. held a top-secret investigation into Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO's) after World War II and found the bodies of four humanoids from a crashed flying saucer, according to Britain's leading UFO expert.

The *Observer* newspaper yesterday quoted UFO researcher Timothy Good as saying a U.S. government committee code-named "Majestic-12" examined and then covered up news of UFO crashes in the late 1940s.

According to Good's

book "Above Top Secret: The Worldwide UFO Cover-Up," to be published in July, the MJ-12 committee was set up by President Harry Truman to check reports of unidentified aircraft sighted in the U.S.

Following a report from a local farmer, the committee launched a search for a crashed UFO in a remote area of New Mexico in 1947.

They found the bodies of four humanoid creatures, Good said.

Good quoted from a briefing paper prepared by then CIA head Roscoe Hillenkoetter for Truman's successor, President Dwight Eisenhower.

"Four small human-like beings had apparently ejected from the craft at some point before it exploded," the document said.

The *Observer* said it had seen the briefing paper but inquiries to several U.S. archives had failed to authenticate it.